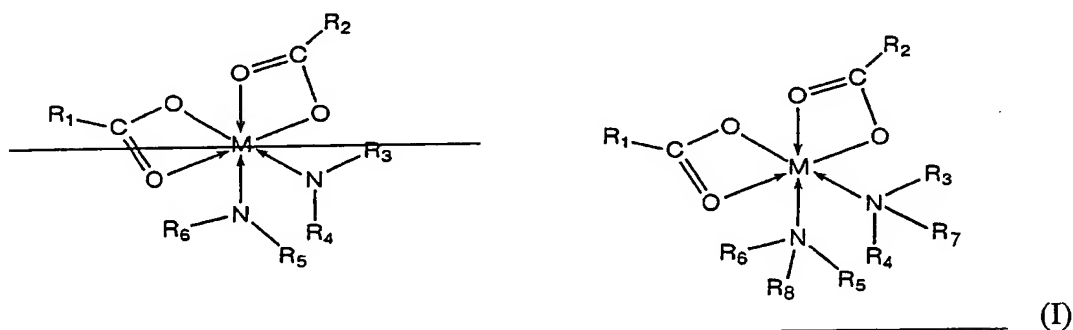


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1(currently amended). A water-scavenging agent for an organic EL device comprising a compound of formula (i) as a primary component:



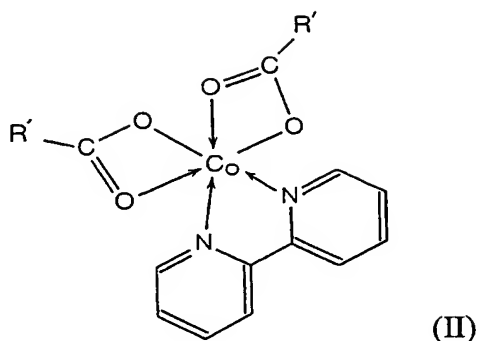
wherein,

~~R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆ are each independently hydrogen; halogen; alkyl; aryl; cycloalkyl or hetero ring, optionally substituted with at least one halogen atom;~~

R₁ and R₂ are each independently C₄₋₁₀ alkyl;

R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆, R₇ and R₈ are each independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl or C₃₋₉ alkenyl; or R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆, R₇ and R₈ form together with the respective nitrogen atoms attached thereto a condensed aromatic ring containing two nitrogen atoms; and M is a metal having a coordination number of 6 cobalt, manganese or aluminum.

2(currently amended). The water-scavenging agent of claim 1 which comprises a compound of formula (II) as a primary component:



wherein, R' has the same meaning as R₁ to R₆ and R₂.

3(previously presented). An organic EL device which comprises a glass substrate plate having an organic luminescent part, a sealing case having a cap to be sealed with said glass plate to enclose said organic luminescent part and a water-scavenging means installed inside said sealing case, the water-scavenging means containing the water-scavenging agent of claim 1.

4(original). The organic EL device of claim 3, wherein the water-scavenging agent is in the form of a layer coated on the inner wall of the sealing case.

5(original). The organic EL device of claim 3, wherein the water-scavenging agent is in the form of a powder held inside the sealing case.

6(previously presented). An organic EL device which comprises a glass substrate plate having an organic luminescent part, a sealing case having a cap to be sealed with said glass plate to enclose said organic luminescent part and a water-scavenging means installed inside said sealing case, the water-scavenging means containing the water-scavenging agent of claim 2.

7(previously presented). The organic EL device of claim 6, wherein the water-scavenging agent is in the form of a layer coated on the inner wall of the sealing case.

8(previously presented). The organic EL device of claim 6, wherein the water-scavenging agent is in the form of a powder held inside the sealing case.

9(new). The water-scavenging agent of claim 1 which comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of:

